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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/712,950

11/16/2000

Woon-Il Kim

P56107

3781

8439

7590

06/18/2004

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EXAMINER

TRAN, DOUGLAS Q

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2624

DATE MAILED: 06/18/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/712,950

Applicant(s)

KIM, WOON-IL

Examiner

Douglas Q. Tran

Art Unit

2624

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 11-23 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 16 November 2000 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 3/11/16/00.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: ____.

DETAILED ACTION

Specification

1. The title of the invention is not descriptive. A new title is required that is clearly indicative of the invention to which the claims are directed.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-4 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Kakigi (US Patent No. 6,422,557).

As to claim 1, Kakigi teaches a system controlling a printing device, comprising:

the printing device (102 in fig. 1) including a plurality of sheet storage unit (107 in fig. 1) storing sheets on which images will be formed and a plurality of sheet outputting units (108 in fig. 1) outputting the sheets on which the image are formed;

a manipulation panel (104 in fig. 1) including a display unit displaying a print state and an input unit input print setting conditions;

a host computer (col. 8, lines 59-61) inputting the print setting conditions and giving a print command to output the work result of a user to the printing device; and

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a printing device controller (i.e., the video controller 103 in fig. 4) including a host interface unit (402 in fig. 4) interfacing the host computer, a manipulation panel interface unit (401 in fig. 4) interfacing the manipulation panel, and a printing device interface unit (406 in fig. 4) interfacing the printing device, the printing device controller processing signals received (col. 8, lines 53-65).

As to claim 2, Kakigi disclose every feature discussed in claim 1, and further teaches of with display unit (104 in fig. 1) displaying a print state, a name of an exclusive user, and an exclusive user, and an exclusive cassette, the exclusive user being the only user performing a print on the printing device, an exclusive cassette being the sheet storage unit used exclusively by the exclusive user (col. 8, lines 56-58).

As to claim 3, Kakigi discloses every feature discussed in claim 1, and further teaches with the input unit including a cassette designating unit, a sheet output position designating unit, an exclusive use display column, an exclusive time designating unit, a unit designating a number of print jobs, and a user display panel (col. 8, lines 56-58 and col. 10, lines 10-18).

As to claim 4, Kakigi discloses every feature discussed in claim 3, and further teaches the printing device controller processing a command from the host computer or the manipulation panel and controlling the printing device to process the print command according to set conditions (col. 10, lines 10-32).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person

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having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 5-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kakigi (US Patent No. 6,422,557) and in combination of Shimura (US Patent No. 6,499,069).

As to claim 5, Kakigi discloses a method for controlling the printing of a printing device controlling system, comprising the steps of:

the printing device controlling system (fig. 1) including the printing device (105 in fig. 1), a manipulating panel 104 in fig. 1), the printing device controller (103 in fig. 4), and a host computer (101 in fig. 1);

setting an exclusive use with respect to a cassette and a sheet outputting position of the printing device under a predetermined set condition, in response to an input from the manipulation panel or the host computer (col. 13, lines 18-23); and

printing specific contents in the cassette and the sheet outputting position of the printing device that are set to be exclusively used, according to a print command from the host computer (col. 13, lines 18-23).

However, Kakigi does not explicitly teach of initializing a printing device controller so that the power is distributed to parts of the printer.

Shimura teaches of turning power on and initializing the controller in the printer (col. 14, line 66 to col.15, line 14).

It would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the printing system of Kakigi for initializing a printing device controller so that the power is distributed to parts of the printer as taught by Shimura. The suggestion for modifying the system of Kakigi can be reasoned by one of ordinary skill in the art

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as set forth above by Shimura because the modified system would increase the efficiency and reliability of the printer by setting initializing after the power is turned on so that the printer will reset the operation of the units of printer. Such a modification allows the controller of the printer to refresh and restart the communication with the units within the printer.

As to claim 6, Kakigi discloses every feature discussed in claim 5, and further teaches with set condition being a time in the step of setting the exclusive use (step of S605 in fig. 6).

As to claim 7, Kakigi discloses every feature discussed in claim 5, and further teaches of set condition being a number of works in the step of setting the exclusive use (step of S611 in fig. 6).

As to claim 8, Kakigi discloses every feature discussed in claim 5, and further teaches with the step of setting the exclusive use comprising displaying a symbol signifying the printing device being unusable on the display unit of the manipulation panel when an exclusive user is designated (fig. 10 indicates the input setting symbol is manipulated at the panel).

As to claim 9, Kakigi discloses every feature discussed in claim 5, and further teaches with the step of setting the exclusive use comprising displaying a symbol representing a next user designation stand by on the display unit of the manipulation panel when the exclusive user is designated (fig. 10 indicates the input setting symbol is manipulated at the panel).

As to claim 10, Kakigi discloses every feature discussed in claim 5, and further teaches the step of canceling the exclusive use setting when a certain period of time elapses after completion of a printing operation set by the exclusive user (step of S605 in fig. 6).

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Allowable Subject Matter

6. Claims 11-23 are allowed.

Claim 11 is independent claim.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

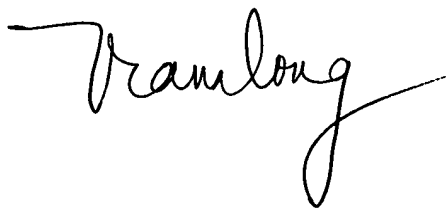
7. As to claim 11, prior art, including an updated electronic text search, would not teach step of "determined whether an exclusive use is to be set with respect to a sheet outputting position unit when the sheet storage unit is set to be exclusively used; determined whether there is a print command when it is determined that the exclusive use is not set with respect to the sheet outputting position unit or when the corresponding sheet outputting position unit is set to be exclusively used".

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Douglas Q. Tran whose telephone number is (703) 305-4857 or E-mail address is Douglas.tran@uspto.gov.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-4700.

Douglas Q. Tran
June 11, 2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "D. Tran", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.